

CROWN HEIGHTS.

FRANKLIN AVENUE AT
EASTERN PARKWAY--





STUPIDSTUPIDSTUPIDSTUPIDSTUPID...

HEROINE

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LETTERER

HEROINE
Chic™

HEROINE CHIC created by
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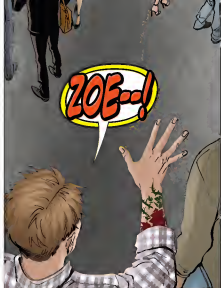
CHAPTER SIXTEEN

FASHION WEEK PART I

--TO GET TO WORK, ZOE TAKES
THE 4 TO FULTON STREET, THEN
SWITCHES TO THE A, AND TAKES
THAT TO 34TH STREET

...I WISH
I REMEMBERED
MORE OF IT, BUT
MIND-NUMBINGLY
STUPID.







DANIEL!

...HI!

Hi.

Hi...



HE DOESN'T
KNOW, DOES
HE?

HE?

HOW COULD
HE KNOW?

WHAT IF HE
KNOWS?

SUDDENLY,
I FEEL UNDER
DRESSED.





NO! IT'S ME. I
HAVE TO BE FANCY
TODAY BECAUSE IT'S
FASHION WEEK. AND
DYNA'S TAKING ME TO
ONE OF THE RUN-
WAY SHOWS.





COOL!
HEY, SPEAKING
OF THAT--

--HOW
WAS YOUR
BIG MEETING
WITH CAPTAIN
JACK?

IT WASN'T
GOOD HE HATED

...AND THEN
MY IDEAS. HE
BASICALLY TOLD
ME I HAD NO
TALENT--

--I BELIEVE
THE PHRASE HE
USED WAS "WELL-
INTENTIONED
MIMICRY".



AT LEAST SHE STOPPED
THINKING ABOUT THE
INCREDIBLY BAD DECISION
TO SLEEP WITH VALIANT.

WHAT
DOES HE
KNOW?

HE'S THE
CLIENT.



AT THE
RESTAURANT,
CUSTOMERS SEND
THEIR FOOD BACK
ALL THE TIME...

...DOESN'T
MATTER WHY,
THEY DO. AND
CHEZ D. COULD FAIL
SERIOUSLY...

TOMORROW. BUT
I LOVE WHAT
I DO--

--ZLHHNNNG

--AND
I KNOW
I'M A GOOD
COOK.

YOU KNOW
YOU'RE GOOD,
ZOE. DOESN'T
MATTER WHAT
ANYONE ELSE
THINKS.



SOMETIMES,
THAT'S THE ONLY
THING THAT GETS
PEOPLE LIKE US
THROUGH THE
DAY.

I
GOTTA
GO!

NEXT
STOP...
NOSTRAND
AVENUE!





PEOPLE

DOING

LIKE US.



WHEN DID
HE GET SO
SMART?



FASHION WEEK, PART II



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YOUR TOP TEN QUESTIONS: FROM A TO Z

FROM A TO ZOE

Thank you all so much! We had a huge response to last week's HEROINE CHIC, and all your questions made us think.

Quite a few readers want to know if we'll ever flip the genders of our characters-probably not (not yet), but we love the idea of female Valiant; and if the long-haired jogger is coming back. Again, probably not-but it's a big city and there are a lot of boys with good hair.

Okay. Here we go:

10) How did Dyna come across the material and process to make Cortex? -- *KORabbit*

Cortex is a fabric and a process. Dyna created both. It's a fabric because it's made of a specific material, and it's a process because it's made in a specific way.

with her husband. Yes, Dyna's married! "Smart" threads are woven into a neoprene-like fabric and zapped with an electric current. The specific mixture of threads and the amount of voltage applied creates different results. So, Cortex can look and feel like leather or latex-but is always fire resistant and un-ripable. That's a fashion term. Un-ripable.

9) How do you come up with the characters everyday fashion? -- *Angie??*

We buy a ton of fashion magazines and are always on the look out for hot dresses and shoes. The internet and sites like Refinery29 help, too. (We love Refinery29.) We also have no shame - and will walk up to complete strangers on the subway and asked women where they bought their clothes.

8) How did Zoe find her love of designing and sewing; and what was her first creation? -- *Abigayle Turner*

On the first day of 8th grade, Zoe showed up with her jeans cuffed-and all the other girls had their jeans

hemmed. Her Mom was at work (her parents are divorced), so Zoe had to figure out how to hem her own jeans. It gave her a great sense of accomplishment, and that started her interest in sewing. By high school, she was offsetting the cost of expensive designer clothes by making her own outfits for school. She also made friends with other girls because she was the only one who knew how to sew a button.

7) Why did Captain Jack reject Zoe's ideas? – Amber

Just because you get a great opportunity, doesn't mean you're going to get the job. That's life. Zoe's still very young, and just starting out. She has talent-she knows how to design, but she has to learn how to be a designer. Also, art is subjective (and fashion is art). Captain Jack has the sum of human knowledge at his metal fingertips, but what he likes is just one robot's opinion.

6) Zoe's story has seemed fairly disconnected thus far. I know [Heroine Chic] likes to cover certain social issues, but what does...Zoe's story begin to be her life, as opposed to little snippets? – Haley & Stenzel

HEROINE CHIC has 26 chapters, and we're only 2/3 of the way through! The truth is, our lives are made up of a lot of different (often random) experiences. Our day at work, our life at home, our friends, the news-they all affect us in tiny different ways. Zoe's life is about to get very interesting (all Zoe, all the time!) Keep reading, because it's all coming together.

And here are the Top Five, T-shirt Winning Questions:

5) For a character with so many moments of displayed strength, self respect, and discipline...why is it that Zoe can't seem to help herself when it comes to her "super booty call"? -- *Jim West*

Dyna yelled at Zoe about Paragon; Zoe had a horrible date with Valiant; a robot said she has no talent. That's a lot. Sometimes, life gives us more than we can handle. We all make mistakes. We all have moments of

weakness and regrets. It's how we handle it and what we do the next day that makes us who we are. Let's see where Zoe ends up. (Also...we enjoyed your work with Artemis Gordon.)

4) How many people work on this Webtoon? -- *Anne*

We are a small but mighty team. David Tischman is the only one (in the world) Zoe trusts enough to tell her stories, so he writes the scripts. Audrey Mok, based in Hong Kong, turns those stories into unbelievably pretty pictures. Tanya Horie, in Los Angeles, colors those pictures with a painter's eye for color and texture and style. Taylor Esposito, in New Jersey, makes the words and the captions and the sound effects make sense. They are all very dedicated and talented, and patient. At Webtoons, Tom Akel is our Professor X, giving excellent advice and keeping us out of the Danger Room.

3) What inspired you to write this comic? Or what comic made you think, "Oh, I wonder how super-heroes get their costumes" unless it was Edna [Mode] from "The Incredibles". -- *F****

...Like Edna Mode's the only one who ever designed a super-hero costume. Wait until you meet Umbra Langoastine. HEROINE CHIC is inspired by our experiences as 20-somethings, just out of school-full of big dreams and trying to figure out how the world works. Do we have what it takes to "make it"? Do we even know what we want to "make"? Also-and almost more important-so much of the depiction of young people (especially young women) in movies and TV is narcissistic and mean-spirited. We don't think young people are lazy, or clueless. At HEROINE CHIC, we believe 20-somethings are good, smart people who care about their friends. They just haven't figured out who to be, and which super-suit to put on. And speaking of heroes, so many comics have gotten so dark. Where is the joy? Being a super-hero is special. That's what inspires us.

2) When creating your characters, who reminded you of Dyna? -- *Silent_Scarlet*

Dyna represents the first big boss you ever had. The boss at the job you finally got because you know what you want to do, and you're passionate about it. And

you want to do, and you're passionate about it. And that person you work for is a bitch. Sure, the first three times she yells at you, it was your fault; but the fourth time, you're like, wait a minute, I didn't do anything wrong. We've all had that experience.

1) In this webcomic, you tackle many sensitive issues such as LGBTQA rights, racism, and feminism. What inspired you to take these risks and speak out? Are you ever worried about not being qualified enough on the subject matter to speak out, bearing in mind that the way you treat such issues has the ability to influence so many people? -- *ReadingBee*

All the issues we discuss in HEROINE CHIC are important in today's world-they are literally shaping the world, right in front of our eyes. And we're not experts. So for every chapter, we talk to people who are. And we do the research. Do we get it right every time? We sure hope so. If we don't, you'll let us know. And we'll talk about why it's wrong. And then we'll fix it. We believe an open mind-and starting and maintaining an open dialogue to make sure information and perceptions are correct and clear-is the best way to make those

change last.

Thanks again. And to Jim West and Anne and F*** and Silent_Scarlet and ReadingBee, we'll get your limited edition HEROINE CHIC T-shirts out asap.

See everybody next week!

